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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,704	02/10/2004	Mark R. Hellberg	2187 US F	3340
7590 Teresa J. Schultz Alcon Research, Ltd. 6201 South Freeway, Q-148 Fort Worth, TX 76124-2099				
		EXAMINER FAY, ZOHREH A		
		ART UNIT 1612		
		PAPER NUMBER		
		08/06/2009		
		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/775,704

Applicant(s)

HELLBERG ET AL.

Examiner

ZOHREH A. FAY

Art Unit

1612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 are presented for examination.

Claims 7-18 are withdrawn from consideration.

The amendments and remarks filed on March 26, 2004 have been received and entered.

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wallace (5,166,317) in view of WO 00/32197 and further in view of Glaser et al. (US 5,767,079) and the Drugs of Further (1997), for the reasons set forth on pages 2-4 of the office action of June 18, 2008 and pages 2-3 of the office action of October 26, 2008.

Applicant's arguments and remarks have been carefully considered, but are not deemed to be persuasive. Applicant in his remarks argues that Wallace and WO 00/32197 do not teach the use of neurotrophic factors for the treatment of dry eye. Applicant's attention is drawn to the abstract and column 1, lines 55-59 of Wallace et al., which teaches the use of neurotrophic factors for the treatment of dry eye. Applicant also argues that the WO 00/32197 is directed to the use of the claimed compounds for the treatment of glaucomatous neuropathy and retinal and optic nerve head damage and not treatment of dry eye. The examiner is applying WO Patent to show that the claimed compounds are neurotrophic factors being used for the treatment of ophthalmic disorders. Applicant's arguments regarding the Glaser et al. have been noted. Applicant in his remarks argues that Glaser et al. does not teach the use of the growth factors for the treatment of dry eye. Applicant's attention is drawn to column 1, lines 15-30 of Glaser et al., which teaches the use of transforming growth factor for the treatment

of dry eye. Applicant goes on by saying that the Drugs of the Future describes AIT-082 as "growth factor mimetic agent", but it does not teach administering such agent topically to the eye suffering from the dry eye. Applicant is reminded that the rejection is an obviousness rejection and not anticipation rejection. Applicant also argues that the Drugs of the Future teaches away from using AIT-082 due to the teaching that certain growth factors cause neovascularization in the tissues without preexisting neovascularization. The arguments are noted. It is the examiner's position that the AIT-082 is a growth factor mimetic, which might not have the side effects of using the growth factor. Furthermore, many drugs are employed regardless of the possibility of certain side effects.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ZOHREH A. FAY whose telephone number is (571)272-0573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fredrick Krass can be reached on (571) 272-0580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ZF
/Zohreh A Fay/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1612